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(72) Inventor: Cox, Daniel L.
Palo Alto, California 94301 (US)

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(74) Representative:
McLeish, Nicholas Alistair Maxwell et al
Boulton Wade Tennant
27 Fumival Street
London EC4A 1PQ (GB)

(71) Applicant:
ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS, INC.
Santa Clara California 95052 (US)

(54) Vibrating stent for opening calcified lesions

(57) An intraluminal catheter and stent delivery system (10) using vibratory energy to open calcified lesions (43). The catheter having an expandable stent (40) mounted on a balloon portion (13) thereof, is adapted to convey vibratory energy through the stent to a calcified lesion to facilitate crossing and dilating the lesion during a PTCA procedure. A vibratory energy source (53) is

transmitted through a flexible wire (50) to provide vibratory energy to the stent, which in turn provides vibratory energy to a calcified lesion to thereby at least partially pulverize the lesion and assist in crossing and dilating the body lumen.

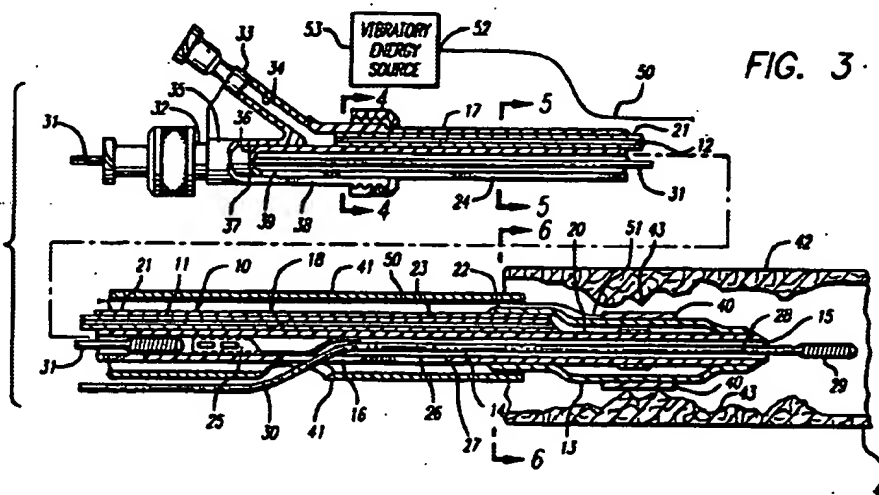


FIG. 3

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